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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Indochina	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Formation of New Democratic Republic of Vietnam 310 Division	DATE DISTR.	15 September 1953
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1. At a military conference convened by Hoang Van Thai, Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) Chief of Staff, at Thai Nguyen on approximately 1 June, General Chu Van Tan, Political Commissar and Commander of the Viet Bac Interzone, was charged with organizing and commanding a new 310 Division. This division is located at Ma Ket and Loc Binh in Langson Province.
2. The 310 Division will be fully equipped, completely trained, and will comprise the following ethnic minorities: Tho (Langson and Cao Bang), Meo (Lai Chau and Nghia Lo), and Thai. The objective of the 310 Division is the defense of the Cao-Bac-Lang area, thus freeing DRV troops for offensive duties.
3. The 310 Division is being formed for purely defensive duties because regional troops in the area are undertrained and poorly equipped.¹

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1. [REDACTED] comment. It appears doubtful the DRV would form a regular division for local defensive duties. [REDACTED] on the formation of the 310 Division.

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[REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] reported the formation of a new DRV division, [REDACTED] for the disposition of DRV troops in North Vietnam.

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